Mr. I. Raman Menon —(a) and (b). The policy of the Government was to invest with judicial powers, a few Panchayats every year selected from those which, in their opinion, were best fitted for it. This continued till 1095. Due to the cost involved in the upkeep of these Panchayat Courts, the paucity of cases in some of these courts and the clamour of almost all the Panchayats to be given civil powers, Government found in 1096 that they could not continue the above policy and from that year forwards no Panchayats were newly invested with such powers. A scheme of clubbing together these Panchayats which are compactly situated and which could conveniently exercise judicial powers within the group, if invested, is now before the Government. The question will be decided after the separation of the Panchayats from Agriculture has been settled.

(c) Since 1100.
(d) No.
(e) Vide answer to (a) and (b) above.
(f) Yes.
(g) Vide answer to parts (a) and (b) above.

Thanikkudom Scheme.

132. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to state in what stage the Thanikkudom Project now is, and what work has been done with reference to it in the year 1103?

Mr. V. K Aravindaksha Menon—The survey work in connection with the investigation is over and the office work is in progress. The detailed survey work was completed in 1103.

Mental Hospital.

133. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether there was any damage to the new building of the Mental Hospital after the Assistant Engineer and his subordinates were punished for certain damages to the same building; if so, what was the extent of the damage and the action taken by Government for same?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There was no damage worth mentioning to the new male ward No. III to which the question relates except that it was found necessary to introduce tie rods for the roof.

The expenditure on account of this was Rs. 116—14—7.

Medical Scholarship for a Muslim student.

134. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they received last year as well as this year pplications from a bonafide Muslim student of the M. B. B. S.

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